

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A speech dialogue system (1) comprising:
 a speech understanding unit (4) in which, for identifying a meaningful word sub-sequence from a recognition result produced by a speech recognition unit (3) which result was determined for a word sequence fed to the speech dialogue system (1), the word sub-sequence is evaluated by means of a plurality of different speech models (8).

2. (Currently Amended) A The speech dialogue system as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that,~~ wherein a general speech model (LM-0) and at least one theme-specific speech model (LM-1, ..., LM-K) are provided for evaluating the word sub-sequence.

3. (Currently Amended) A- The speech dialogue system as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that,~~ wherein the plurality of different speech models (8) contains at least one theme-specific speech model (LM-1, ..., LM-K) to which a database (DB-1, ..., DB-M) with respective theme-specific data material is assigned, which material is used for determining the semantic information contained in the word sub-sequence.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of extracting a significant word sub-sequence from a recognition result produced by a speech recognition unit (3) of a speech dialogue system (1), in which the word sub-sequence is evaluated with a plurality of different speech models (8) in a speech understanding unit (4) of ~~the~~ a speech dialogue system (1).